

Harun made chef de mission

SPORTS REPORTER

Harun-or-Rashid, member of the Bangladesh Football Federation, has been made chef de mission of the Bangladesh contingent for the Indo-Bangladesh Bangla Games.

The third edition of the Games will be held in Kolkata from March 24 to March 27 with some 161 athletes from Bangladesh taking part in 10 disciplines of the four-day meet.

The disciplines are athletics, badminton, football, judo, Kho Kho, swimming, shooting, basketball, gymnastics and kabaddi.

Finn impressed

FROM PAGE 17

give it my all," added Finn.

He said that the visitors never thought that they were going to finish the game in the fourth day despite the home team suffering a similar top order collapse also in the second innings.

"At no stage did we sit back and say we were going to finish this game today. We said we wanted to bowl as many dot balls as possible, build pressure on Bangladesh, and that will get us wickets. They aren't going to be walked over because they've got good batsmen. We just wanted to bowl dot balls, 'll get deliveries, and hopefully they'll get themselves out," he informed.

The lanky paceman however said that he was looking to the new ball which would be taken today.

Omari screamer

FROM PAGE 17

break but failed to split the

backline of Brothers Union. After resumption, Brothers Union looked more organised and mustered their first attempt on goal in the 58th minute when captain Lutfur Rahman Nayan drove a long-range shot outside from the box that narrowly missed the target. Two minutes later Maksudul Alam Bulbul tried from distance but it again drifted tantalisingly wide of the post.

As it looked the game might end nil all, Sheikh Russel found the back of Brothers' net in the 63rd minute when Morocco's Omari drove a fierce shot from 30 yards out leaving Iran Sheikh under Brothers Union post flabbergasted. And that single goal was enough to ensure Sheikh Russel's eighth victory in 12 matches which took them to the second position with 27 points, six adrift of leaders Abahani but one ahead of third-placed Mohammedan. Mohammedan, however, have a game in hand.

With three wins, four draws and as many defeats, Brothers Union are stuck on 13 points.

Mourinho

FROM PAGE 20

"It is important to stay calm. These are the games that put a lot of pressure on us. We have to have good control of this pressure because this is the right way to play well."

Since beating Chelsea at the San Siro, Inter have won just once in three matches, with Friday's 3-1 defeat at Catania a particularly humbling result.

In contrast, Chelsea looked to have rediscovered their verve in Saturday's 4-1 rout of West Ham.

Messi steals

FROM PAGE 20

"He is talented and is a great role-model for all the children."

VB Stuttgart are up next for Barca and Messi at Camp Nou on Wednesday in the second leg of the last 16 Champions League tie although coach Pep Guardiola insists the league is still the priority.

"Winning the league is the real litmus test," said Guardiola. "That gives us the stability to fight in Europe."

"There's a tendency to say that the Champions League is the objective, but we'd be wrong to centre our attention too much on the fact that the final is at the Santiago Bernabeu (Real Madrid's stadium)."

"I know that if we want the title we need to take a lot of points. I'm sure that Madrid will drop very few points in what's left of the season."

Real have dropped just 13 points in the title race as have Barcelona. As it stands Real are top on goal difference after a 4-1 thumping of Valladolid on Sunday.



Winners of the Prime Bank 12th International Rating Chess Tournament are seen with the guests during the prize distribution ceremony at the conference room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

Federer, Murray thru'

Tennis

AFP, Indian Wells

World number one Roger Federer shrugged off a second-set lapse to reach the third round of the BNP Paribas Open Sunday with a victory over Victor Hanescu.

Federer said he was pleased with his first match since his Australian Open triumph, even if he wasn't quite firing on all cylinders in his 6-3, 6-7, 6-1 victory.

"I was happy with the way I played," Federer said. "Not having played for so long, I thought it was a good match overall."

"Missed maybe some of the clutch serving when I really needed it. Let's say 30-ll, duce, I couldn't really get that one perfect serve I was sometimes looking for. But that's something that happens."

Hanescu was Federer's second-round victim in Melbourne, where Federer claimed his 16th Grand Slam singles title.

The Swiss star had been slated to play the Dubai Open last month, but was sidelined by a lung infection.

Federer, who won the Indian Wells Masters 1000 title in 2004, 2005 and 2006, appeared headed to the kind of decisive victory over Hanescu that he posted in Melbourne when he broke

the Romanian in the second game and went on to clinch the opening set without facing a break point.

But he ran into trouble in the second when Hanescu reeled off three straight games, including a service breaker, to take a 5-2 lead. Federer responded by winning three straight games to level the set at 5-5 as they went to the tiebreaker.

In the decider, Hanescu jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead. Federer closed the gap, but after knotting the score at 5-5 Federer netted a volley to give Hanescu a set point that he converted when Federer's backhand service return sailed long.

"I didn't play the best of tiebreakers, but still had a small chance. I remained calm in the third, and I played good tennis," added Federer, who took control of the final frame by winning the first three games.

Federer next faces Marcos Baghdatis of Cyprus, a 7-6, 6-1 winner over France's Arnaud Clement.

Andy Murray, who fell to Federer in the Australian Open final, booked his third-round berth with a "scrappy" 6-4, 6-4 victory over Italian Andreas Seppi.

The fourth-seeded Briton, who was runner-up here last year, got off to an erratic start but found a groove with his serve in the second set to triumph in an hour and 26 minutes.

"It was a pretty scrappy match," Murray said. "Even though it was relatively comfortable, there were still some tight moments."

"When you haven't played for a long time, you have to expect not to play your best the first match out," added Murray, who lost in the second round at Dubai last month in his most recent prior outing.

Other men's seeds to advance Sunday included sixth-seeded Swede Robin Soderling, a 6-2, 6-4 winner over Evgeny Korolev of Kazakhstan, and seventh-seeded American Andy Roddick.

Roddick dispatched Taiwanese qualifier Lu Yen-Hsun 6-4, 6-4.

In women's third-round action Australian Open semifinalist Zheng Jie of China outlasted 2006 titlist and 10th seed Maria Sharapova 6-3, 2-6, 6-3 in a gritty battle lasting two hours and 43 minutes.

Other seeded women advanced on cue, including second-seeded Dane Caroline Wozniacki who beat Russian Maria Kirilenko 6-0, 6-3.

Fourth-seeded Russian Elena Dementieva also advanced, downing Belgian Kirsten Flipkens 6-4, 6-2, and fifth-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland cruised into the round of 16 with a 6-1, 6-0 victory over Argentina's Gisela Dulko.

Shakib climbs

FROM PAGE 17

The 28-year-old Queenslander took 12 wickets in the series against New Zealand which has helped him lift four places to 10th position. Johnson now becomes Australia's highest-ranked bowler after Doug Bollinger slipped two places to 14th spot after managing just four wickets in five ODIs.

New Zealand's Shane Bond, who bagged nine wickets against Australia, has swapped places with fellow New Zealander Kyle Mills who missed the series with shoulder and knee injuries. A player misses one per cent of his ratings for every match he misses, and as such, fifth-placed Bond has taken a 17-point lead over Mills and is just seven points behind fourth-placed Nuwan Kulasekara of Sri Lanka.

In the ODI batsmen's rankings, West Indies captain Chris Gayle has continued his

upward movement and has leapfrogged India great Sachin Tendulkar into fourth position.

Gayle, who was in seventh position at the start of the month, was in sublime form in the series in which he scored 273 runs, including three half-centuries.

New Zealand's middle-order batsman Ross Taylor has also improved to the top 20 after returning to the top 20 after improving his ranking by four places. He is now in 18th position after scoring 177 runs in the series.

Blackcap Scott Styris, who was the pick of the batsmen in the series with 199 runs, has climbed three places to 37th position while second-ranked Michael Hussey has narrowed the gap with India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni to just eight points after finishing as the second most successful batsman with 198 runs.

The batsmen slipping in the table are Shivnarine

Chanderpaul of the West Indies and Brendon McCullum of New Zealand. Both have dropped one place each to ninth and 19th positions, respectively.

Meanwhile, the positions in the ICC ODI Championship at the annual cut-off date of April 1 have also been confirmed with Australia finishing number one and India claiming second place, 11 ratings points behind.

For their achievements, Australia will be presented with a cheque of 175,000 dollars while India will collect 75,000 dollars. This will be in addition to 175,000 dollars which the India side will collect for claiming the top spot in the ICC Test Championship. South Africa, who finished second on the Test table, will receive 75,000 dollars. The cheques presentation ceremony will take place in due course.

'Commitment the key'

FROM PAGE 17

played the longest innings of my career," said Zunaed, who occupied the crease for 257-minutes and faced 199 balls.

He also said that they have worked out the short deliveries. "It's nothing new because we also faced same situation in the South Africa tour."

Zunaed however was very much realistic about the match fate as they were still 322 runs behind from the target and have only five wickets in hand.

"It's difficult to predict the future of the match but we lost far too many wickets. And England put up a big score. But the wicket is still good and we have to be very careful in the first session of the final day," said Zunaed.

Nothing will be better than if the two batsmen take a fresh guard today to prolong their partnership to make everybody believe that the young side is really coming of age. It was nice to see the players enjoying a football game in the ground after the end of the

fourth day's play and this spirit will only continue if they make a decent finish of the Test.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the fourth day of the first Test between Bangladesh and England at the Zahur Ahmed Stadium in Chittagong on Monday:

ENGLAND: First innings 599-6 decl (Cook 173, Collingwood 145) BANGLADESH: First innings 296 (Tamim 86, Mushfiqur 79; Swann 5-90)

ENGLAND: Second innings (overnight 131-5) Cook c Aftab b Mahmudullah 39 Carberry lbw b Razzak 34 Trott c Zunaed b Shakib 14 Pietersen lbw b Shakib 32 Collingwood c Mahmudullah b Razzak 3 Bell not out 39 Prior c Shahadat b Shakib 7 Swann c Zunaed b Shakib 32 Extras: (b-5, lb-2, nb-2) 9 Total: (For seven wks decl in 49.3 overs) 209 Did not bat: Broad, Bresnan, Finn.

Fall of wickets: 1-65, 2-87, 3-

126, 4-130, 5-131, 6-144, 7-209.

Bowler O M R W Shahadat 6 0 19 0 Rubel 6 1 28 0 Mahmudullah 8 0 26 1 Nayeem 3 0 14 0 Shakib 16.3 1 62 4 Razzak 10 2 53 2

BANGLADESH: Second innings

Tamim b Swann 14 Imrul c Prior b Finn 23 Zunaed not out 68 Aftab c Prior b Bresnan 26 Mahmudullah b Bresnan 5 Shakib lbw b Swann 47 Mushfiqur not out 47 Extras: (b-2, lb-2) 4 Total: (For five wks in 75 overs) 191

To bat: Nayeem, Razzak, Rubel, Shahadat. Fall of wickets: 1-33, 2-45, 3-99, 4-105, 5-110.

Bowler O M R W Broad 12 5 34 0 Bresnan 16 4 45 2 Finn 11 4 31 1 Swann 29 6 61 2 Pietersen 5 1 11 0 Trott 2 0 5 0

Minhaz wins Rating Chess

SPORTS REPORTER

FM Minhaz Uddin Ahmed emerged champion in the Prime Bank 12th International Rating Chess Tournament securing eight points from nine games, said a press release yesterday.

FM Mohammad Javed became runner-up with 7.5 points while FM Khandokar Aminul Islam, Abdul Momin and SAM Nasser finished third, fourth and fifth respectively with seven points each.

Sehwag

FROM PAGE 17

Rajasthan's total of 141 for six with 17 balls yet to be bowled.

The only highlight for Rajasthan was a batting half-century from Abhishek Jhunjhunwala which took them to a respectable total, but it was rendered woefully inadequate in the wake of an unforgetting onslaught from Sehwag.

Rajasthan were made to regret their batting fairly early in the chase, as Sehwag blazed away in the first over, swinging Dimitri Mascarennas over square leg and mid-on for two boundaries. Shaun Tait, who was cut fiercely through point, and Munaf Patel, who was dispatched over long-off for a six and past mid-on for a boundary the next over, were his next victims.

There were a couple moments of hope for Rajasthan. Mascarennas returned in the fourth over to snare Gautam Gambhir, who mistimed a slower one to mid-on, and got one to move away to produce an outside edge from Tillakaratne Dilshan the next ball. That the wickets made no difference to Sehwag's approach could have worked to Rajasthan's advantage, as he skied Mascarennas when on 41 only to be dropped by Tait while running back from short fine -- another low on what's so far been a miserable IPL for the South Australian.

SCORES IN BRIEF

RAJASTHAN (ROYAL): 141 for 6 in 20 overs (Jhunjhunwala 53, Dogra 29, Ojha 24, Smith 18; Sangwan 1-20) DELHI DAREDEVILS: 142 for 4 in 17.1 overs (Sehwag 75, Karthik 23 not out, De Villiers 15, Manhas 11 not out; Mascarennas 2-31) Result: Delhi Daredevils won by 6 wickets. Man-of-the-match: Virender Sehwag.

WI win once more

Cricket

AFP, Kingstown

West Indies canted to a four-wicket victory in the fifth and final one-day international on Sunday as Zimbabwe's brittle batting line-up crumbled again.

As expected, the Zimbabweans failed to successfully defend a modest victory target of 162, and West Indies completed victory with 134 balls to spare, wrapping up the series 4-1.

Zimbabwe's spin bowlers again mesmerised the West Indies' batsman, but the result was secured when Denesh Ramdin pulled a short delivery from leg-spinner Timycen Maruma through mid-wicket for his only boundary in 21 not out.

It was the fourth straight defeat for Zimbabwe, after they won the first match in Guyana by two runs.

They conceded the second ODI by four wickets last Sunday, slumped to a 141-run defeat last Wednesday in St Vincent, where they also lost by four wickets on Friday.

Zimbabwe have never beaten West Indies in a bilateral ODI series.

"It's been a long time since we last won a series, and it feels really, really good to have achieved this," said West Indies captain Chris Gayle, whose 63 from 41 balls set his side firmly on course for victory.

"It has been a total team effort because we started really badly, when we lost the first ODI. But for the guys to have bounced back, and won the series 4-1 was a tremendous effort, and I must commend them for the way they went about it."

Charles Coventry, playing for the first time in the series, struck five fours in the top score of 56 from 88 balls, but failed to save Zimbabwe from another batting collapse.

No other Zimbabwe batsman scored 20, and the visitors were dismissed for 161 from their full quota of 50 overs, after they were sent in to bat on another helpful Arnos Vale Multiplex pitch.

Zimbabwe were undone by Darren Sammy's three wickets for 33 runs from his allotted 10

overs, and Ravi Rampaul's two for 24 from his 10 overs that flattened their top-order batting.

"There were not enough runs on the board for us to be competitive," said Zimbabwe captain Prosper Utseya.

"We have been letting ourselves down terribly with our batting, but our bowlers have been bowling their hearts out throughout the series." He added: "We have to go back home and work very hard on our batting. It is important for the guys to take some lessons out of this."

Zimbabwe got a lesson from Gayle about destructive batting, when the West Indies captain smashed eight fours and two sixes to give his team a typically flourishing start.

Elton Chigumbura gave the Zimbabweans an early breakthrough, when he had Adrian Barath lbw for 14 in the fifth over.

The visitors were effectively put out of the match, when Gayle took control, and dominated a second wicket stand of 76 with Darren Bravo, West Indies all-rounder Dwayne Bravo's younger brother.

Gayle swept Utseya for a single to deep backward square leg to reach his 50 from 32 balls before he was caught at long-off from the off-spin of the Zimbabwe captain in the 16th over to leave West Indies to chase 66 from the remaining 208 balls.

Zimbabwe made things interesting, when they collected four more wickets, mainly through the recklessness of the West Indies batsmen.

The Zimbabweans' scalps included Kieron Pollard, whose 36 from 20 balls included three fours and three sixes, and swung the match decisively before he was caught at long-off off left-arm spinner Ray Price with 13 required.

SCORES IN BRIEF

ZIMBABWE: 161 all out (Coventry 56, Chigumbura 19, Lamb 16, Cremer 19 not out; Rampaul 2-24, Sammy 3-33)

WEST INDIES: 165 for 6 (Gayle 63, Bravo 14, Ramdin 21 not out, Pollard 36; Utseya 2-41)

Result: West Indies won by four wickets and clinched five-match series 4-1.

Man-of-the-match: Chris Gayle. Man-of-the-series: Chris Gayle.

Ferrari all smiles

AFP, Manama



Ferrari were singing and smiling again Monday morning as they reflected on what a difference a year -- and one important win -- can make in the Formula One World Championship.

Twelve months on from rising to negative and even insulting headlines after a dreadful opening to a desultory 2009 campaign, the Italian outfit were purring with satisfaction after new boy Fernando Alonso led Felipe Massa home in the Bahrain Grand Prix.

Two-times champion Spaniard Alonso took full advantage when leading German Sebastian Vettel of Red Bull was forced to slow down with reduced power and went on to claim a glorious debut triumph with his new team.

For team chief Stefano Domenicali, who survived a series of calls that he should be sacked during the team's abysmal opening spell last season, it was a vital psychological boost.

He admitted that he and the team had been under great pressure to deliver with their new lead driver and F10 car after switching their focus to the future midway through a dreadful 2009 season.

Domenicali said: "Yes, absolutely, this was a very important race for all of us in the team."

"After a difficult season like last year, and after a very difficult decision that we had to take last year, everyone was ready with the gun to fire."

"But that is part of the game. This is the reason why I have to take certain responsibility. It is good because it shows that the decision was right."

"I have to thank all the people at home who worked very hard, they were staying together, because it is easy when you have a very bad season."

"Everyone says you have bad people and it was better in a different period. But that is life. We know that. So the only way to react is to come back with results."

The Ferrari chief warned that one win did not signal anything to celebrate and pointed at the team's main rivals as dangers to their ambitions of lifting the titles.

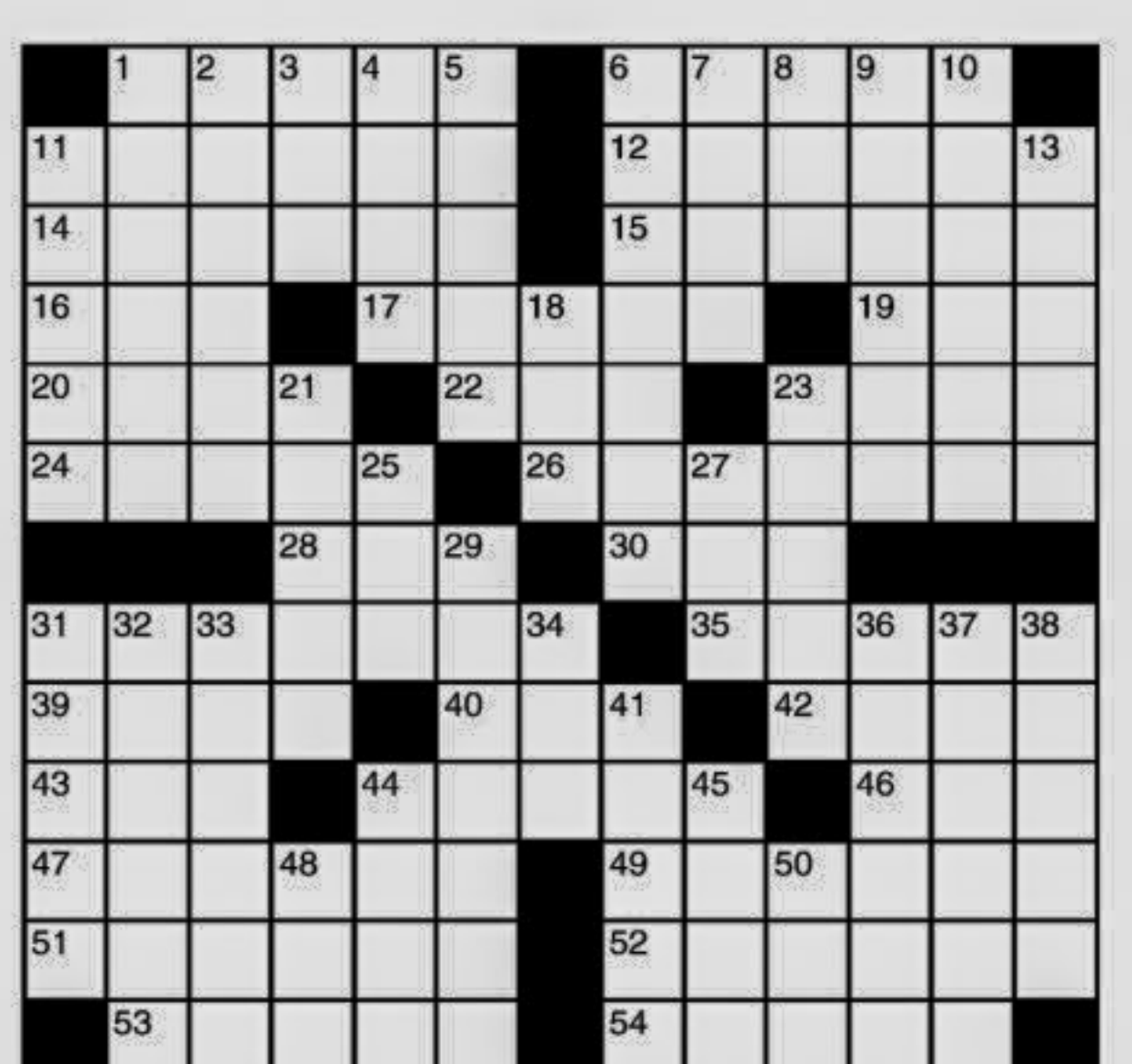
"For us, the important thing is to see that the car we had here in Bahrain has given us a good base for the future. It is a very, very long season this year and we want to stay with our feet on the ground -- I expect all the other teams to be aggressive and competitive."

Domenicali added that it was vital to identify who are likely to emerge as Ferrari's main rivals in this year's title race.

"I think it is best to respect all the other teams. Red Bull Racing and McLaren are very strong. Now we have to see which teams can develop quickly and bring in new parts."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Campus personnel 6 Bottom-less pit 11 Revered answer 12 Deliver a sermon 14 Light shade 15 Pie, e.g. 16 Spasm 17 Host 19 Tear 20 Birth-right 22 'Eureka!' 23 Yawn 24 River-mouth feature 26 Rushes in with force 28 Recipe meas. 30 generis 31 Vine of a sort 35 World-weary 39 Frau's man 40 Parcel of land 42 Squared 43 Lawyers' org. 44 Imper-sonate 46 Pismire 47 Anise-flavored liqueur 49 One of the clergy 51 Plagia-rizes 52 Not kissproof 53 Wear away 54 Century components 55 Actor McBride 1 Laud 2 Scamp 3 Autumn mo. 4 Scoot 5 Alabama city 6 Seems to be 7 Highland hillside 8 'Abso-lutely' 9 Subordi-nate official 10 Scenario 11 Chose 13 Over-adver-tises 18 Actor McBride 21 Say 23 Duplicity 25 Venom-ous viper 27 Massage 29 Fur-trimmed cloak 31 Fellows 32 Money-back offer 33 Pencil part 34 Computer acronym 36 Personifi-cation 37 Men of La Mancha 38 Access 41 In one's cups 44 Temper-ate 45 Arrived 48 The way, to China? 50 Pirate's domain



CRYPTOQUIP

B M S P Y W N S O H N B W F S V H P H N Q R S E N O K F N V Q H S V W A E P R S Z N K R F G N R X N A X B Z N E N M S G N H N B W - G B R N H

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN COMPOSER JOHANNES' PIECES WERE JUST TOTALLY UNPLAYABLE, DID THEY BECOME BRAHMS' BOMBS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals O